

Peace Lutheran Church
2017 Deacon of Stewardship Report

According to Webster, Stewardship is *"The aspect of religious life and church administration dealing with the individual's responsibility for sharing systematically and proportionately the time, talent and material possessions in the service of God and for the benefit of all mankind."*

Earlier in the year we held a Forum on **Thrivent's Action Team offer of \$250** - (twice a year) for any Peace Member to use as seed money for any charitable cause (Educational, Justice or Fundraising) that you are passionate about -- here at Peace or in the larger community. *(I used my \$250 for a Sunday Forum to raise awareness and funds for the Teen Challenge Adolescent Girls Center who helps young girls/women in recovery.)* I assume, since I have not heard from many of you, that you are figuring it out and are simply deciding when to apply and how best to use your free money in 2018! I know it sounds too good to be true, but it really is true. And I have already educated our Peace Council about this catalytic opportunity for ministry.

Pledge Cards were sent out in November and a total of \$50,000 was pledged. This is less than previous years, but not everybody pledges. Hopefully unpledged offerings will bring us up (and even over) the \$88,000 budgeted.

But the definition says "Time, Talent and Material Possessions". I know many of you are involved in many church and community activities. If not, find something you enjoy - driving people to doctor visits, treatment visits, reading to children in the library or classroom, teaching immigrants to read and write English, working with pets, singing to people in Retirement Homes, collecting socks, coats, books sports equipment, etc. for those in need. The list is endless, and you have an entire congregation help you.

Barbara Ghinazzi
Stewardship Deacon